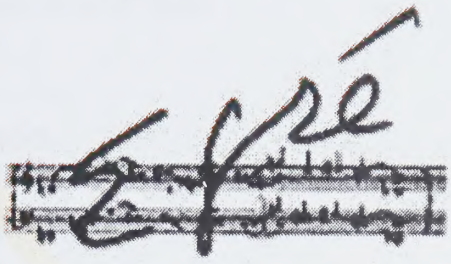

2006 Tour Concert

David Eggert, cello

Winner, Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition

Walter Delahunt, piano

Saturday, November 4, 2006 at 8:00 pm

Convocation Hall

Arts Building
University of Alberta

Program

DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC

Program

Sonia's Letters — **Frederick A. Schipizky (b. 1952)
(2006 E-gré Commission)

Sonata No. 2 for Cello and Piano — *Bohuslav Martinu (1890-1959)
- Allegro
- Largo
- Allegro commodo

Sonata for Cello and Piano in D Minor — Claude Debussy (1862-1918)
- Prologue
- Serenade
- Finale

Intermission

Sonata for Cello and Piano in G Minor, Op. 65 — Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)
- Allegro moderato
- Scherzo (Allegro con brio)
- Largo
- Finale (Allegro)

* Contemporary work
** Canadian contemporary work

Mr Eggert is performing on an 1888 Gustave Bernadel cello.

90.9 CBC radio Two

CBC Radio Two is pleased to share tonight's recital with the rest of Canada through broadcasts on the programs *In Performance, Studio Sparks*, and *Our Music*. You can listen to *Studio Parks* with host Eric Friesen every weekday from 12:00 noon to 3:00PM, to *In Performance* with host Andrew Craig weeknights at 8:00PM and to *Our Music* with host Catherine McClelland on Sundays at noon. CBC Radio Two is at 90.9FM in Edmonton.

Program Notes

2006 COMMISSIONED WORK

Sonia's Letters

by Frederick A Schipizky

In the summer of 1974, while I was a student at Courtenay Music Camp on Vancouver Island, I had a chance encounter with Sophie-Carmen or "Sonia" as her friends called her. She was accompanied by her husband, Ferdinand Eckhardt, and the reason for her visit was to hear the Purcell String Quartet perform one of her string quartets. Sonia graciously agreed to listen to some of my compositions and also gave me an impromptu composition lesson. Who would know that within five months she would be gone? She tragically died during a "routine" operation to mend her leg, which she had broken during an accidental fall inside of a city bus.

In gratitude of my brief association with Sonia, I was determined to write a work that lent a personal touch. To these means, my idea was to use specific letters from her name that also corresponded to musical pitches names, and fashion a theme from these letters. Since Sonia's native language was German, I use the German system of pitch names whereby "S" is "E-flat" and "H" is B natural. This theme would become the basis of the new work. Further inspiration came from reading Sonia's biography "Music from within", written by Ferdinand Eckhardt. I was fascinated by the many heartfelt letters that Sonia had written during the course of her life. She not only wrote letters to living people, but she also wrote letters in her diary to her deceased mother and deceased first husband, Walter Gramatté. These letters often expressed her frustration of not being recognized and appreciated as a composer, but also revealed that her true calling in music was not that of a performer, but as a composer. This biography also disclosed Sonia's great love of Bach's solo violin suites, which were works that she performed in recital many times. In tribute, I have attempted to compose a Bach-like passage at the beginning of the solo cadenza, in the middle of the work.

Sophie-Carmen Eckhardt-Gramatté
(S=Es=Eb) (H=B natural)

Dr Frederick A Schipizky (b. 1952) was born in Calgary, but has been a resident of Vancouver since 1957. Schipizky studied composition with Elliot Weisgarber and Jean Coulthard at the University of British Columbia graduating with a B.Mus. degree in composition in 1974. From 1974-76 Schipizky was a double bassist with the Victoria Symphony and it was at that time that he worked privately with Murray Adaskin, Harry Freedman, and S.C. Eckhardt-Gramatté. Schipizky pursued graduate studies at the Juilliard School studying composition with Roger Sessions and David Diamond and double bass with David Walter. At Juilliard he was principal bass of the Juilliard Philharmonia as well as a teaching assistant in music theory, receiving his Master's in composition and performance in 1978. That same year he won a position as double bassist with the Vancouver Symphony, a position he still holds today. He received the Doctor of Music in composition from the University of Toronto in 1994 studying with John Beckwith and John Hawkins. Schipizky has been a faculty member of the Vancouver Academy of Music as well as Douglas College. He has formed a lifelong bond with the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, both as a former member and as auditioner, composer, conductor, and lecturer. He has performed with the Montreal Symphony, CBC Radio Orchestra, Esprit Orchestra, Arraymusic, Purcell String Quartet, and was the principal bass of Vancouver New Music for a decade. During his varied career in music Schipizky has been a teacher, performer, conductor, and orchestrator. He has written many works for celebratory occasions such as "Fanfare to the Royal Visit" performed at BC Place Stadium in the presence of Queen Elizabeth, and has received commissions from the Vancouver Symphony, Toronto Symphony, CBC Radio, and Expo '86 among many others. Schipizky's works, of which the orchestral works are the main genre, have been performed throughout Canada, the U.S., Europe, England and Japan.

David Eggert, 21, began playing the cello at the age of three. Eggert, a native of Edmonton, studied until age eighteen under the tutelage of Tanya Prochazka, whom he considers to be the greatest influence on his development as a musician. He went on to study with Lawrence Lesser for two years in Boston at the New England Conservatory of Music, and is currently a student of Matt Haimovitz at the Schulich School of Music, McGill University. Eggert has garnered first prizes at the Canadian Music Competition and the National Music Festival (both playing chamber music), and at the 2006 Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition. Major performances with orchestra include concertos of Schumann, Haydn, and Bloch, and the Brahms Double Concerto with violinist Andrew Wan. He has participated in masterclasses with Anner Bylsma, Bernard Greenhouse, Heinrich Schiff, Raphael Wallfisch, Aldo Parisot, Timothy Eddy, Ron Leonard, Joel Krosnick, Steven Doane, and Desmond Hoebig. He was recently invited by Ida Haendel to perform at the Keshet Eilon Festival in Israel next summer. Along with pianist Walter Delahunt, Eggert has played concerts across Canada and Austria, and will be touring 15 Canadian cities in October & November 2006 as part of the E-gré Competition First Prize.

Pianist **Walter Delahunt** is a Canadian citizen and an artist of broad and distinguished experience. His career has taken him throughout Europe, the Middle East, North America and Asia. His musicianship is characterised by tremendous technical command of the instrument, unique sound quality, ease in chamber music, solo playing and accompanying and by a power of communication which immediately involves the listener. He has played with some of the world's greatest musicians, including Zara Nelsova, Gidon Kremer, Martha Argerich and the legendary violinist Ida Haendel, with whom he has played several times in Japan, Korea, Israel, the U.S. and Canada. He was professor at the Vienna Academy of Music between 1984 and 1997 and has recorded for Panton (Prague) and BMG Japan. A live recording of Dvořák chamber music, performed at the "Progetto Martha Argerich" in Lugano in June 2002 has been released on EMI Classics. Mr. Delahunt currently resides in Canada and Germany.

Sponsors

Tour sponsored by the
Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition Inc.
Brandon, Manitoba

Canada Council for the Arts | Conseil des Arts du Canada

The SOCAN Foundation

Upcoming Events

November
5 Sunday, 3:00 pm - **CANCELLED**
Master of Music Recital
Moira Hopfe-Ostensen, piano
Free admission

6 Monday, 12:00 pm
Music at Noon, Convocation Hall
Student Recital Series
Featuring students from the
Department of Music
Free admission

7 Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 am
Choral Literature Class
with Visiting Artist Robert Sund
Fine Arts Building 1-29
Free admission

9 Thursday, 8:00 pm
Unversity of Alberta Concert Choir
and Madrigal Singers
with Visiting Artist
Robert Sund, Conductor
Program will include
O Crux: Knut Nystedt:
Tre Körvisor: Wilhelm Stenhammar:
Och jungfrun: Hugo Alfvén
West End Christian Reformed Church
(10015-149 Street)
Admission: $10/stud/sen, $15/adult
Co-sponsors: Alberta Choral
Federation, Alberta Foundation
for the Arts, University of Alberta
President's Fund for the Creative and
Performing Arts

10 Friday, 5:00 pm
Hear's To Your Health
Martin Riseley, violin
Marina Hoover, cello
Patricia Tao, piano
Cello Sonata: Shostakovich
Trio, Op. 70, No. 1 "Ghost":
Beethoven
Foyer, Bernard Snell Auditorium,
Walter MacKenzie Health Sciences
Centre, University Hospital
Free admission
For information, call 492-8109

14 Tuesday, 8:00 pm
Visiting Artists Concert
Czech Boys' Choir "Boni Pueri"
Francis Winspear Centre for Music
Sir Winston Churchill Square
Admission: $10/stud/sen, $15/adult
Co-sponsors: Czech Society for Arts
and Sciences of Alberta
and the Wirth Institute for Austrian
and Central European Studies

15 Wednesday, 8:00 pm
Concerto Competition Finals
Admission: $10/stud/sen, $15/adult

17 Friday, 7:30 pm
Czech Boys' Choir "Boni Pueri"
Faith and Life Chapel,
Augustana Faculty, Camrose
For more information,
call 780-679-1503
e-mail: vabailey@augustana.ca

department of Music

Unless otherwise indicated
Convocation Hall, Arts Building, University of Alberta
Please note: All concerts and events are subject to change without notice. Please call 492-0601 to confirm concerts (after office hours a recorded message will inform you of any changes to our schedule).